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## STATUS OF COAL-CLEANING IN THE USSR

OFFICIAL REVIEWS PROGRESS OF COAL CLEANING -- Alma-Ata, Kazakhstanskaya Pravda,  
13 Jun 53

In a conversation with a TASS correspondent. Marchenko, chief of the Main Administration of Coal Cleaning of the Ministry of the Coal Industry, made the following remarks:

The mechanization of coal cleaning was started during the Stalin five-year plans when very large coal-cleaning plants were constructed in the Donbass, the Kuzbass Karaganda, and at coke by-product plants. These enterprises were constructed at a particularly speedy rate during the Fourth Five-Year Plan and have now achieved a productive capacity four times as great as it was 10 years ago. In 1952, half of all the coking coal extracted was cleaned, and in the Kuzbassugol' Combine, almost all the coal intended for coking was cleaned.

As a result, a high-grade product with a low ash content was obtained. The improved quality of the coal made it possible for metallurgical workers to increase the utilization of the volume of blast furnaces. Coal consumption was reduced in the gasification of coal and in the use of coal for locomotive fuel. The removal of ash and sulfur from the coal relieved the railroad of transporting thousands of trainloads of waste matter annually.

The USSR has devised a mechanical method for cleaning lignite, which is mined in very large quantities in the country, and experimental installations for this purpose are operating successfully in the Urals at the Volchansk and Kamyslin deposits.

In 1953, several very large coal-cleaning plants are to be put into operation. During the next 2 or 3 years, automatization of control of technical processes in coal-cleaning plants will be completed.

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## COAL INDUSTRY SCIENTISTS, SPECIALISTS MEET -- Moscow, Trud, 25 Jun 53

On 25 June 1953, a meeting dealing with cleaning coal by the flotation method opened in Stalino. It was called by the Ministry of the Coal Industry, the Institute of Mining of the Academy of Sciences USSR, and the All-Union Scientific, Engineering, and Technical Mining Society.

Innovators of coal-cleaning plants, scientists and specialists of Moscow, Leningrad, Kiev, the Donbass, the Kuzbass, the Moscow basin, the Georgian SSR, and other regions of the country participated in the meeting.

At the first session, speeches were made by I. N. Plaksin, corresponding member of the Academy of Sciences USSR, and by S. G. Voblikov, deputy chief of the Main Administration of Coal Cleaning of the Ministry of the Coal Industry USSR, on the subject of tasks in the field of coal flotation.

It was stated that one fifth of all the coal to be coked consists of coal dust and fine particles. Up to a short time ago, these were not cleaned but, as a type of production tailings, were used for fuel purposes. The flotation method, now being widely introduced in coal-cleaning plants, removes foreign matter from the coal in these tailings and the coal thus obtained can be coked. In 1952, ferrous metallurgy received hundreds of thousands of tons of valuable coal from this source alone. The saving from the adoption of flotation already exceeds 100 million rubles. In the near future, this outstanding method should be introduced in all coal-cleaning plants. Perfected machines have been designed and are being introduced in production, production processes are being intensified, and cheaper materials, needed for the flotation process, are being sought.

## OPERATION OF GEORGIAN COAL-CLEANING PLANTS -- Tbilisi, Zarya Vostoka, 11 Jun 53

The Tkibuli TsOF (Central Coal-Cleaning Plant) has been put in operation to clean coal destined for coking. The opening of this plant was a positive factor in the lowering of the ash content of the coal mined in the area.

In addition to the output of cleaned coal from the Tkibuli TsOF, the site plan provides for the output of large-sized varieties of coal to go directly from the sorting installations of the Mines imeni Lenin and imeni Stalin. Enterprises of the Georgian, Armenian, and Azerbaydzhan SSRs have been presenting increased demands for these coals.

The directors of mines of the Tkibulugol' Trust have relied entirely on the accomplishments of the Tkibuli TsOF and have relaxed their own efforts to improve the quality of the fuel.

A clear failure to fulfill the plan for large-sized varieties of coal during the past months is creating a tense situation for a number of the large industrial enterprises of the Transcaucasus.

The place at the Tkibuli station where batch loading of railroad cars is carried out before the coal is shipped to consumers lacks a screen, despite repeated demands for one by the Uglesbyt (Coal Sales) Office. As a result, different types of coal are frequently mixed.

In technical control sections of the mines no attention is paid to the reorganization of sample-selecting operations. Even in the Tkibuli TsOF, equipped with the latest techniques, the selection of industrial samples is carried out manually instead of by machines provided for by order of the minister.

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The situation is no better in Tkvarcheli. Here the directors of the Tkvarcheli TsOF and the Tkvarchelugol' Trust are allowing increased ash content in the coal shipped to consumers. It is not surprising, therefore, that the number of complaints from consumers of Tkvarcheli coal does not decrease. They deplore the very large amount of fines, the high ash content, the increased moisture content, and the contamination of the coal by foreign matter.

During 4 months of 1953, the Tkvarchelugol' Trust paid 570,221 rubles in penalties because of the increased ash content of its coal and 171,070 rubles because of the increased moisture content. The trust has recently intensified its efforts to improve the quality of its coal, but many shortcomings remain.

As a result of the inadequate removal of rock in mines of the Tkvarchelugol' Trust, thousands of tons of rock are shipped along with the coal every month to the coal-cleaning plant 12 kilometers away. At the plant this rock is separated from the coal and discarded on the dumps. According to plant data, in 1952 about 90,000 tons of rock were transported to the plant which should have been removed in the mines.

Coal cleaning in mines of the Akhalskugol' Trust is also unsatisfactory. Recently, shipments of defective coal from there have increased. Quality inspections by the Zakavkazuglesbyt (Transcaucasus Coal Sales) Administration have not resulted in the elimination of infringements along this line.

Work of the departments for technical control of the mines is poorly checked. Among the chiefs of the OTK (Otdel Tekhnicheskogo Kontrolya, Technical Control Division) of the mines of the Gruzugol' Combine there is not one engineer specially trained in coal cleaning. There are only three or four engineers who are coal-cleaning specialists in the entire system of the Gruzugol' Combine. The chemical laboratories of the trusts also lack adequate equipment for normal operations.

KARAGANDA PLANT MEETS HALF-YEAR QUOTA EARLY -- Moscow, Komzomol'skaya Pravda, 12 Jun 53

On 11 June 1953, the Karaganda TsO shipped to the Vostochnykh Metal-lurgical Plant the last trainload of coaling concentrate on its quota for the first half of 1953. Since the beginning of 1953, the plant has saved 2.5 million rubles. A special screen has been set up which removes coal from the rock. Losses of coal in sludge and rock have been decreased 31 percent.

Hundreds of mechanics have eliminated heavy physical labor of coal-cleaning personnel. Workers now merely operate machines and assure the regular functioning of the production conveyor.

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